Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1. (Currently Amended) A carrier tape forming apparatus comprising:
- a tape paying-out unit for paying out a tape to be worked;
- a tape feeding unit for feeding the tape;
- a forming unit for effecting embossing on the tape;
- a perforating unit for perforating at least a feeding hole in the tape;
- a tape taking-up unit for taking up the finished tape thereabout;
- a first double-acting <u>driving</u> unit <u>having a driving</u> <u>aligned with a feeding</u> direction <u>of the</u> <u>tape</u> along a straight <u>driving</u> path and being fluid-operated for driving the tape feeding out unit;
- a second double-acting <u>driving</u> unit <u>having a driving</u> <u>aligned with the feeding</u> direction <u>of</u> <u>the tape</u> along [[a]] <u>the</u> straight <u>driving</u> path and being fluid-operated for driving the tape taking-up unit; and
- a controller for controlling driving/stopping of the first double-acting driving unit and the second double-acting driving unit in association with driving/stopping of the first double-acting driving unit for said feeding unit.
- 2. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a paying-out operation by the tape paying-out unit is effected by the double-acting driving unit provided for the tape feeding unit for feeding the tape feeding operation.
- 3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein a tape paying-out unit includes a pay-out reel winding the tape to be worked thereabout, a dancer roller for adjusting the paying-out operation and a brake belt for braking a reel shaft of the pay-out reel; and

Atty. Docket No.: 033036.086

a braking amount of the brake belt is adjusted for adjusting an amount of the tape to be paid out from the tape paying-out unit, in accordance with a movement of the dancer roller associated with a feeding operation of the tape feeding unit.

4. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprises a slitting unit for slitting or cutting off a width-wise end of the tape; and

a slitting blade and a feeding roller provided in said slitting unit are rotatably driven by said double-acting driving unit provided for the tape feeding unit for feeding the tape.

- 5. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the tape feeding unit includes a tape holding means movable back and forth in unison by the double-acting driving unit for the tape feeding unit and a stopper for restricting a position of the tape holding means thereby to adjust a feeding amount of the tape.
- 6. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the stopper includes a forwardmost position determining portion, a rearmost position determining portion and a feeding amount adjusting portion, the feeding amount of the tape being adjustable by a feeding amount adjusting portion.
- 7. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the tape holding means includes at least one pair of tape holders provided across the forming unit and the perforating unit, and a connecting member for connecting the pair of tape holders together to be movable back and forth by the double-acting driving unit.

8. (Withdrawn) A method of forming a carrier tape comprising the steps of: paying out a tape to be worked from a tape paying-out unit; fixing the tape in position at a forming unit and then embossing the tape at the forming unit; and releasing the worked tape; and taking up the worked tape at a tape taking-up unit;

wherein the tape is held by tape holding means provided across said forming unit; said tape holding means as holding the tape is moved together linearly by a double-acting driving unit which is fluid-operable, so as to pay out the tape from the tape paying-out unit and feed the tape intermittently; and

the tape is formed and worked at the forming unit under a suspended condition not effecting the feeding operation.

- 9. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 8, wherein in the step of fixing the tape in position, this position fixing operation is effected with a feeding amount of the tape moved by the double-acting driving unit being restricted by a stopper.
 - 10. (Withdrawn) A carrier tape formed by the method according to claim 8.
 - 11. (Withdrawn) A carrier tape formed by the method according to claim 9.
- 12. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the tape taking-up unit includes a take-up reel, a pinion gear, and a rack gear, and wherein the pinion gear and rack gear cooperate to convert straight-line driving to rotational driving of the second double-acting driving unit thereby rotating the tape taking-up reel.